

REGULAR MEETING
February 3, 2026

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman of the Board, Lawrence Dolhof.

ROLL CALL:

All Legislators were present. There were 18 other people present.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE:

Chairman Dolhof asked Legislator Kalamas for the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

Chairman Dolhof declared the January 6, 2026 meeting minutes approved by general consent.

PUBLIC HEARING:

At 5:01 p.m., Chairman Dolhof opened the public hearing on adoption of a new Short Environmental Assessment Form for "Unlisted Actions" related to Agricultural Districts in Lewis County and a SEQRA cooperative agreement with NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets for the Lewis County Agricultural District Program. There were no public comments at this time.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RULES COMMITTEE:

The Finance and Rules Committee have met and recommend to waive the rules to allow action on late resolutions.

Signed by: Jessica Moser
Jeffrey Nellenback
Herb Frost
Thomas Osborne
Barry Lyndaker

Dated: February 3, 2026

Legislator Moser moved to accept the recommendation of the Finance & Rules Committee, seconded by Legislator Forst, and approved.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Arlene Hall of the Lewis County Historical Society presented the 2025, Volume XLVI edition of the *Lewis County Historical Society Journal*. She noted that the journal has been published annually since its inception in the mid-1960s and is

produced entirely by volunteers — a true “labor of love” representing more than 500 hours of donated time, not including the extensive research required for each article. Each edition is unique, though all focus on the history and heritage of Lewis County.

Hall highlighted that the cover was designed by John Ashton Golden, a Lowville Academy Central School graduate who works professionally in graphic arts. This year’s edition is dedicated to Leslie Safford, a valued colleague who served the Society for many years (1951–2025). She also pointed out that information on the 2026 Black River Valley Concert Series is included inside the back cover and encouraged all to attend.

She concluded by expressing her appreciation to the Board of Legislators for their continued support and invited everyone to visit the Historical Society.

CLERK OF THE BOARD REPORT:

I have received three applications for Corrected Tax Rolls: two pertaining to properties in the Town of Lewis and one for a property in the Town of Pinckney. All three applications have been reviewed and approved by Candy Akin, Real Property Tax Director, and Eric Virkler, County Treasurer.

I have also received the 2025 Annual Reports from the following departments: Board of Elections; Buildings & Grounds; Codes; Community Services; County Clerk; Emergency Management; Highway; Information Technology; Office for the Aging; Planning & Community Development; Probation; Public Health; Purchasing; Real Property Tax; Recreation, Forestry & Parks; Social Services; Solid Waste; Treasurer’s Office; and Workers’ Compensation.

As a reminder to Legislators, the Annual Snowmobile Ride will take place this Friday, February 6th, beginning at Snow Ridge.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Legislator Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee, delivered the Snowmobile Season Report. He noted that Lewis County’s snowmobile trails have experienced excellent conditions throughout the season, with solid snow coverage and consistent grooming reported across multiple areas as of late January 2026. All nine snowmobile clubs in the county operate entirely through volunteer efforts, providing grooming seven days a week to maintain the county’s 516 miles of active trails.

Riders have benefited from prime mid-season conditions following significant snowfall around January 28th, which increased snow depths to approximately 24 to 48 inches across many trail sections. Highmarket reported a total of 185 inches of snowfall, while Worth, just outside the western side of the county, reported 250 inches. The trail counter on Flat Rock Road recorded a peak of 1,700 sleds on December 27th – equivalent to one sled passing every minute over a 24-hour period.

Riders are reminded to ensure that their snowmobiles are properly registered and insured in accordance with New York State requirements. They are also encouraged to consult official club trail reports for the latest information on trail openings, hazards, and reroutes to support safe riding conditions. Additionally, riders may wish to download the NYSA trail app for \$5.00, which is updated daily by all 220 snowmobile clubs across the state. The app provides current, hour-by-hour trail conditions, including openings and closures.

Legislator Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee, reported that the Lewis County Department of Social Services is currently processing multiple Child Care Assistance applications from the waitlist and anticipates clearing the list within the next 30 days. Applications are available on the Lewis County DSS website, and eligible families are encouraged to apply.

He also noted that the Lewis County Warming Center is open for the 2025–2026 season. The center operates nightly from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., through April 30th, at 5499 Jackson Street in Lowville, providing shelter to individuals in need during periods of cold weather.

Additionally, the Office for the Aging is accepting nominations for the Randy D. Streeter Older Adult of the Year Award through early March. Further details are available on the Lewis County website.

Legislator Moser, Chair of the Finance and Rules Committee, reported that the Planning & Community Development Department continues to assist municipalities affected by the 2024 flooding event. Support includes finalizing engineering work and preparing documentation required for FEMA permanent project submissions, as well as completing reimbursement materials for temporary work already performed.

She also noted that the Lewis County Assessors Association will hold five senior citizen exemption workshops throughout February at various locations across the county. These sessions are intended to help seniors complete exemption

renewal forms and apply for new exemptions. No appointments are necessary, and seniors may attend any workshop regardless of their municipality of residence. Dates and locations are available on the county website, the county's Facebook page, and Linking Lewis County.

Additionally, a representative from the Office for the Aging will be present at each workshop to provide information on available programs and services for older adults.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Legislator Kalamas gave a presentation on the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board (LGRB), established in 1973 to serve as the advisory voice for local governments within the Adirondack Park. The Review Board ensures that local perspectives are incorporated into Adirondack Park Agency (APA) decisions, with a focus on balancing environmental protection, economic development, land use, and property rights. It also serves as a liaison to help the APA understand the community impacts of regulatory actions.

The Review Board is led by Executive Director Gerald Delaney Sr. (Clinton County), Chair Brian McDonnell (Franklin County), Vice-Chair Carrie M. Tuttle (St. Lawrence County), and Secretary Pamela Howard (Hamilton County). The Board represents 12 counties within the Adirondack Park, including Lewis County, and its membership consists primarily of town supervisors and town board members.

The APA, created by New York State in 1971, is led by Executive Director Barbara Rice and Chair Mark Hall. Its mission is to protect public and private resources within the six-million-acre Adirondack Park. Responsibilities include land-use regulation, permitting, wetlands oversight, and planning assistance, with an overarching goal of balancing environmental protection with sustainable development.

Lewis County contains 164,019 acres within the Park — approximately 20% of the county's total land area. Of this, 61,639 acres are state-owned (7.61% wilderness, 92.39% wild forest), and 102,380 acres are privately owned. Towns with land inside the Park include Diana (19%), Croghan (16%), Watson (74%), Greig (73%), and Lyonsdale (67%).

The Review Board participated in several regional discussions with state leaders, including a March roundtable in Saranac Lake attended by the NYS Secretary of State, APA leadership, and the DEC Commissioner. Topics included water and sewer infrastructure, road conditions, EMS cell coverage, housing, and

renewable energy. Additional discussions in Long Lake focused on DEC restrictions and improving EMS communications in Franklin and Hamilton Counties.

The Review Board continues to ensure that local voices are represented in APA decision-making, with a strong emphasis on balancing environmental and economic interests. With 20% of Lewis County located within the Adirondack Park—primarily private land—the county remains actively engaged in state-level conversations on infrastructure, development, and community needs.

Legislator Nortz gave a brief update on Advocate Drum citing correspondence with Tiffanie indicates that rider numbers on post have increased. Despite a few challenges this year—particularly the extreme cold, which caused significant strain on the buses—the team was able to work through the issues and maintain service. Additionally, Fort Drum is in the process of establishing two new dining sites on post, which will require adjustments to existing bus routes and schedules.

Jefferson County is also moving forward with the development of a public transportation program—its first—following the model Lewis County has already established. They are currently working to align their future bus schedule with ours, which reflects positively on the proactive efforts of our Planning Department.

Work is also underway on resolutions related to the proposed miniature atomic generator for Fort Drum and the “Next Move New York” initiative. Next Move New York is a state program designed to encourage service members transitioning out of the military to remain in the region and join the local workforce. This initiative has the potential to support future economic development efforts and strengthen the local labor pool.

PUBLIC HEARING (con’t):

At 5:18 p.m. Chairman Dolhof closed the public hearing with no comments.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND RULES COMMITTEE:

RESOLUTION NO. 13 - 2026

AUDITING AND ALLOWING CLAIMS

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

RESOLVED that the claims presented for payment in the total amount of \$2,787,028.21 be and each is hereby audited and allowed for the amounts claimed, and that the Clerk is authorized and directed to draw checks for the County Treasurer for the amounts claimed, in favor of each of the claimants or their assigns.

Moved by Legislator Osborne , seconded by Legislator Frost .

Legislator Moser recused herself from the vote, as several payments included therein are either made payable to her for services rendered as an assigned council or reflect vouchers she approved in that capacity.

The resolution was then adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026, pursuant to the following roll call vote:

AYES: Nortz, Lyndaker, Frost, Leviker, Hanno, Nellenback, Osborne, Kalamas, and Dolhof.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: None.

RESOLUTION NO. 14 - 2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOANNE WITT TO THE
ADIRONDACK NORTH COUNTRY ASSOCIATION BOARD**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) is a regional nonprofit organization that works to strengthen local economies, support sustainable development, and advance community initiatives throughout the North Country region; and

WHEREAS, Lewis County participates in ANCA through representation on its Board, ensuring that the County's interests and priorities are effectively communicated and integrated into regional economic and community development strategies; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators recognizes the importance of continued participation and collaboration with ANCA to advance shared regional goals; and

WHEREAS, Joanne Witt of Watertown, New York, as Executive Director of Naturally Lewis, possesses the experience and perspective necessary to represent Lewis County effectively on the ANCA Board; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Joanne Witt of Watertown, New York, as member of the Adirondack North Country Association Board for a two-year term.

Section 2. The term of this appointment shall be effective February 4, 2026 through December 31, 2027.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Joanne Witt for her willingness to serve and contribute to the Adirondack North Country Association.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Joanne Witt and to the Adirondack North Country Association.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 15 - 2026

**RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING LYNDSEY ALLEN TO
COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Community Services Board shall have nine members appointed by the Board of Legislators pursuant to Mental Hygiene Law § 41.11; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Community Services Board has recommended the reappointment of Lyndsey Allen of Lowville, New York, to serve another four-year term on the Community Services Board; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. That the Board of Legislators hereby reappoints Lyndsey Allen of Lowville, New York, as a member of the Lewis County Community Services Board.

Section 2. That the term of said appointments shall be effective February 4, 2026 through December 31, 2029.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators extends its appreciation to Lyndsey Allen for her continued commitment and valuable service to the Lewis County Community Services Board.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Lyndsey and to the Community Services Department.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 16 - 2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING CAITLIN LAWLER TO
COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD AND
SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SUBCOMMITTEE**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Community Services Board shall have nine members appointed by the Board of Legislators pursuant to Mental Hygiene Law § 41.11; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Community Services Board Alcohol and Substance Use Disorder Subcommittee shall have up to eleven members appointed by the Board of Legislators pursuant to Mental Hygiene Law § 41.11; and

WHEREAS, Caitlin Lawler, of Watertown, New York, has been recommended by the Lewis County Community Services Board and Substance Use Disorder Subcommittee to serve a four-year term;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Legislators hereby appoints Caitlin Lawler of Watertown, New York, as a member of the Lewis County Community Services Board and as a member of the Substance Use Disorder Subcommittee to serve a four-year term.

Section 2. The term of said appointment shall be effective February 4, 2026 through December 31, 2029.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Caitlin Lawler for her willingness to serve and contribute to both the Community Services Board and the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Subcommittee.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Caitlin Lawler and to the Community Services Department.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 17 - 2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING DR. SHIRLEY TUTTLE-MALONE TO
COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD AND
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Community Services Board shall have nine members appointed by the Board of Legislators pursuant to Mental Hygiene Law § 41.11; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Community Services Board Developmental Disability Subcommittee shall have up to eleven members appointed by the Board of Legislators pursuant to Mental Hygiene Law § 41.11; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Shirley Tuttle-Malone of Glenfield, New York, has been recommended by the Lewis County Community Services Board to fulfill the unexpired term of Dr. John Wat on the Community Services Board and to fulfill the unexpired term of Lousie Fox on the Developmental Disabilities Subcommittee;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Legislators hereby appoints Dr. Shirley Tuttle-Malone of Glenfield, New York, as a member of the Lewis County Community Services Board to fulfill the unexpired term of Dr. John Wat.

Section 2. The term of said appointment shall be effective February 4, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

Section 3. The Board of Legislators hereby appoints Dr. Shirley Tuttle-Malone of Glenfield, New York, as a member of the Developmental Disabilities Subcommittee, to fulfill the unexpired term of Louise Fox.

Section 4. The term of said appointment shall be effective February 4, 2026 through December 31, 2027.

Section 5. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Dr. Shirley Tuttle-Malone for her willingness to serve and contribute to the Lewis County Community Services Board and Developmental Disability Subcommittee.

Section 6. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Dr. Shirley Tuttle-Malone and to the Lewis County Community Services Department.

Section 7. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 18 - 2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING KIRSTEN LYNDAKER TO
COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Services Board Developmental Disability Subcommittee shall have nine members appointed by the Board of Legislators pursuant to Mental Hygiene Law § 41.11;

WHEREAS, Kirsten Lyndaker of Castorland, New York, has been recommended by the Lewis County Community Services Board and Developmental Disability Subcommittee for appointment to serve a four-year term;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Kirsten Lyndaker of Castorland, New York as a member of the Developmental Disability Subcommittee to serve a four-year term.

Section 2. That the term of said appointment shall be effective February 3, 2026 through December 31, 2029.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Kirsten Lyndaker for her willingness to serve and contribute to the Lewis County Community Services Board Developmental Disability Subcommittee.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Kirsten Lyndaker and to the Community Services Department.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 19 - 2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING TINA NORTZ TO
COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Community Services Board Developmental Disability Subcommittee shall have up to eleven members appointed by the Board of Legislators pursuant to Mental Hygiene Law § 41.11; and

WHEREAS, Tina Nortz of Glenfield, New York, has been recommended by the Lewis County Community Services Board and Developmental Disability Subcommittee for appointment to serve a four-year term;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Tina Nortz of Glenfield, New York as a member of the Lewis County Community Services Board Developmental Disability Subcommittee to serve a four-year term.

Section 2. The term of said appointment shall be effective February 3, 2026 through December 31, 2029.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Tina Nortz for her willingness to serve and contribute to the Lewis County Community Services Board Developmental Disability Subcommittee.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Tina Nortz and to the Community Services Department.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 20 - 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND CHILDRENS HOME OF JEFFERSON COUNTY FOR USE OF SPACE AT THE 7714 NUMBER THREE ROAD BUILDING TO PROVIDE COUNSELING & THERAPY PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR THE BENEFIT OF LEWIS COUNTY RESIDENTS

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the County entered into an agreement with the Children's Home of Jefferson County (CHJC) to allow CHJC periodic use of the room, # 140 of the County's Human Services Building and premises in order for CHJC to assist in having additional counseling services available to residents in Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, the Children's Home of Jefferson County (CHJC) seeks to relocate to the 7714 Number Three Road Building in Lowville and will be responsible for providing a portion of the cost of operational expenses; and

WHEREAS, CHJC has agreed to pay the sum of \$2,403.00 per month for the use of half of the 7714 Number Three Road Building and its amenities, commencing March 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes an agreement between the County of Lewis and the Children's Home of Jefferson County, Watertown, NY, for use of half of the 7714 Number Three Road Building office space together with all the amenities provided at that building, in order to conduct professional counseling and therapy sessions with patients/clients from Lewis County at a cost of \$2,403.00 a month as its share of operational expenses, commencing March 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027.

Section 2. The Chair or the Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators are hereby authorized to execute and deliver such Agreement, upon such terms and conditions recommended by the County Attorney.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 21 - 2026

**RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS
Community Service**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Community Services Department received Community Support Program (CSP) funds from the New York State Office of Mental Health in 2019 and 2020. These funds have been retained in a balance sheet reserve and are not subject to specific restrictions on use. The Department has identified necessary improvements at the facility located at 7714 Number Three Road and has requested authorization to utilize the CSP reserve funds to cover the associated project costs.

Section 2. The following appropriation is hereby approved to transfer funding from the Community Services reserve (Account A0 063101) to the Buildings and Grounds Department to support the identified improvements. The following revenue and expenditure lines shall be established and recognized accordingly:

Increase Revenue:

A0162800 334919 B & G #3 Road Revenue	\$25,000.00
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Increase Expenditures:

A0162800 490100 B & G #3 Road Prof Services	\$19,000.00
A0162800 460300 B & G #3 Road Bldg Repairs	\$ 6,000.00

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 22 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING UPDATE AND REVISIONS TO THE
COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN (CEMP)
FOR LEWIS COUNTY**

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, County government must provide leadership and direction to prevent, mitigate, respond to, and recover from dangers and problems arising from emergencies in Lewis County pursuant to New York State Executive Law, Article 2-B, by development of a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (“CEMP”); and

WHEREAS, Lewis County has made updates and revisions to the CEMP approximately every five (5) years. The Director of Emergency Management Services has reviewed the County’s Plan and has made proposed revisions to the CEMP and all appendices thereto, to reflect updated provisions as required by New York State and the County’s particular needs, which have been reviewed by the County Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to accept the proposed updates and revisions to the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves the updates and revisions to the Lewis County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) and all associated appendices as proposed by the Director of Lewis County Emergency Management Services.

Section 2. The Director of Emergency Management is hereby directed to incorporate the proposed revisions to the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and all associated appendices and prepare and publish this final updated plan deemed revised on this date.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Kalamas , and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 23 - 2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING RICHARD CHARTRAND TO
LEWIS COUNTY ETHICS BOARD**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, Local Law No. 5-2005, known as the Lewis County Ethics Law, establishes an Ethics Board to ensure the highest standards of ethical conduct among County officers and employees; and

WHEREAS, the Ethics Board is composed of members appointed by the Lewis County Board of Legislators to represent the political diversity and integrity of County government; and

WHEREAS, Richard Chartrand of Lowville, New York, has expressed a willingness to serve and possesses the integrity, judgement and community commitment necessary to fulfill the duties of this important position; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators desires to fill this position in accordance with the provisions of the Lewis County Ethics Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Richard Chartrand of Lowville, New York, as a Republican representative on the Lewis County Ethics Board to serve a two-year term.

Section 2. The term of said appointment shall be effective from February 4, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Richard Chartrand for his willingness to serve and contribute to the Lewis County Ethics Board.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Richard Chartrand and to the Law Department.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 24 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT NO. 2 BETWEEN
LEWIS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND
FISHER ASSOCIATES FOR MARSHEY ROAD
OVER WEST BRANCH OSWEGATCHIE RIVER
(PIN 775399; BIN 3339960)**

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators adopted Resolution No. 308-2021 authorizing the Bridge Replacement on Marshey Road over West Branch Oswegatchie River (PIN 7753.99; BIN 3339960) in the Town of Diana, County of Lewis for Fisher Associates to provide engineering services for the P.E/Design phase of the bridge repair project at a cost of \$290,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators adopted Resolution No. 102-2023 authorizing Supplemental Agreement No. 1 with Fisher Associates for additional PE/Design services at an additional cost of \$26,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Department desires to enter into Supplemental Agreement No. 2 with Fisher Associates for additional engineering services for the P.E/Design and Construction Support phases of the project due to bridge replacement modifications, at an additional cost of \$397,000.00 as set forth in Supplemental No. 2; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to accept such services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes Supplemental Agreement No. 2 between the County of Lewis and Fisher Associates to provide additional engineering services for the PE/Design and Construction Support phases of the bridge replacement project identified as Marshey Road over West Branch Oswegatchie River (PIN 7753.99; BIN 3339960).

Section 2. The term of the Supplemental Agreement No. 2 is through March 31, 2027, for the additional amount \$397,000.00 (with 80% eligible for Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds), for a total cost of \$713,000.00 to Fisher Associates for this project.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver such Agreement, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 25 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF LEWIS TO ACCEPT REAL
PROPERTY OBTAINED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK RELATIVE TO KOTEL ROAD
OVER SOUTH BRANCH OF CRYSTAL CREEK (PIN 775424)
CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis has a project for the culvert replacement (PIN 775424) on Kotel Road over South Branch of Crystal Creek in the Town of Watson; Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis owns and maintains the affected portion of Kotel Road; and

WHEREAS, this project requires the acquisition of portions of real property received by Paul R. Lazarus and Laura Ripp Lazarus under Parcel No. 181.00-3-8.112 (Map & Parcel No. 2) Parcel No. 198.00-2-1.140 (Map & Parcel No. 6); Gerald S. Morrow & Carol L. Wood under Parcel No. 181.00-3-6.140 (Map and Parcel No. 3); Richard L. Terry and Sandra J. Terry under Parcel No. 198.00-2.1.152 (Map and Parcel No. 7); and Lewis County requests New York State Department of Transportation acquire these necessary identified lands as shown on attached **Map 2, Parcel 2; Map 3, Parcel 3; Map 6, Parcel 6; Map 7, Parcel 7;** and

WHEREAS, the State of New York has requested that the County agree to accept the real property required upon completion of the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby approves the above-subject project and authorizes the Chair of the Board of Legislators to execute the Agreements and acquisition maps under Contract No. D041006 with NYS DOT, known at Kotel Road over South Branch of Crystal Creek, PIN 775424.

Section 2. Upon completion of the Kotel Road over South Branch of Crystal Creek culvert project, the County of Lewis is hereby authorized to accept the real property acquired by the State of New York for the project, as described herein, and agrees to accept all responsibility, maintenance and jurisdiction of said property.

Section 3. The Chair, or the Vice-Chair of the Lewis County Board of Legislators, is hereby authorized and directed to enter into agreements or any other documents required to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

Section 4. The within Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Kalamas , and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 26 -2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING SHEILA CALLAHAN TO THE
LEWIS COUNTY OFFICE FOR AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Office for Aging Advisory Council serves to advise and make recommendations on matters relating to the development and administration of programs and services for the aging population in Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, the position of District No. 10 Representative to the Lewis County Office for Aging Advisory Council has been vacant for the past few years; and

WHEREAS, Sheila Callahan of Port Leyden, New York, has been recommended by the Director of the Lewis County Office for the Aging, Carla Hellinger, for appointment to serve as the District No. 10 Representative; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Sheila Callahan of Port Leyden, New York, as the District No. 10 Representative to the Lewis County Office for Aging Advisory Council to serve a three-year term.

Section 2. The term of said appointment shall be effective from February 4, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Sheila Callahan for her willingness to serve and contribute to the well-being of the aging population in Lewis County.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a copy of this resolution to Sheila Callahan and to the Lewis County Office for Aging.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 27 -2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING BARBARA CARROLL TO THE
LEWIS COUNTY OFFICE FOR AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Office for Aging Advisory Council serves to advise and make recommendations on matters relating to the development and administration of programs and services for the aging population in Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, the position of District No. 3 Representative to the Lewis County Office for Aging Advisory Council is currently vacant; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Carroll of Copenhagen, New York, has been recommended by the Director of the Lewis County Office for the Aging, Carla Hellinger, for appointment to serve as the District No. 3 Representative; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Barbara Carroll of Copenhagen, New York, as the District No. 3 Representative to the Lewis County Office for Aging Advisory Council to serve a three-year term.

Section 2. The term of said appointment shall be effective from February 4, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Barbara Carroll for her willingness to serve and contribute to the well-being of the aging population in Lewis County.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a copy of this resolution to Barbara Carroll and to the Lewis County Office for Aging.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Kalamas , and adopted on the 3rd day of February 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 28 -2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT A NYS DOS LOCAL GOVERNMENT
EFFICIENCY GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of State (NYSDOS) administers the Local Government Efficiency (LGE) Grant Program to encourage and support projects that improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and cost savings of local government services through shared services, consolidation, and other cooperative efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators recognizes the importance of maintaining safe, reliable, and sustainable local infrastructure, including transportation facilities and public water systems; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Highway Department has been working on the development of roadway and complete streets infrastructure alongside the Village of Port Leyden water system upgrades to improve roadway conditions, enhance public safety, and upgrade water infrastructure serving residents, businesses, and visitors within and around the Village; and

WHEREAS, this collaborative project is expected to promote intermunicipal cooperation and shared infrastructure improvements, reduce long-term maintenance and operating costs, enhance resiliency, and support the overall economic and community development goals of the region; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators has determined that seeking financial assistance through the 2026 NYS DOS LGE Grant Program is in the best interest of the taxpayers in order to offset local costs and advance the timely implementation of the Project; and

WHEREAS, Lewis County, in collaboration with the Village of Port Leyden, would be eligible for up to \$500,000 in NYS DOS LGE funding to complete a roadway and complete streets project, simultaneously with the Village of Port Leyden water infrastructure upgrades, and would need to commit to a 10% cash match; and

WHEREAS, the LGE Grant Program requires an authorizing resolution from the participating municipality or municipalities, designating an official representative

authorized to submit the application and execute all necessary documents on their behalf;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the submission of a NYS DOS Local Government Efficiency Grant Program application in an amount not to exceed \$500,000 to complete a roadway and complete streets project, simultaneously with the Village of Port Leyden water infrastructure upgrades, with the 10% cash requirement being contributed by the County.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice Chair of the Board of Legislators, be and the same, is hereby authorized to sign and submit the application and, if awarded, to accept the funding, sign contract documents along with any non-financial amendments thereto upon such terms acceptable to the County Attorney; and with the Treasurer directed to appropriate the funding to the Lewis County Highway Department when released.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 29 - 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LEWIS COUNTY TO APPLY FOR 2026 NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION CATALYST FUNDING TO COMPLETE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN THE VILLAGE OF PORT LEYDEN

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Planning and Community Development Department desires to apply for up to \$3,000,000.00 in financial assistance to assist with the completion of roadway, complete streets, and other supportive infrastructure projects under the 2026 Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) Catalyst Program; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, the grant requires a commitment of a 20% match from the County, which would be covered by a combination of Lewis County Highway Funds, CHIPS funds, and other eligible grants; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to authorize this application;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows;

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Chair or Vice Chair of the Board of Legislators to sign the Letter of Intent, and application for 2026 Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) Catalyst Program funding in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000.00 to implement roadway, complete streets, and other supportive infrastructure projects in the Village of Port Leyden, and if awarded, to accept the funding, award a bid to the best value firm in compliance with the funding, and sign contract documents.

Section 2. The Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Planning and Community Development Department to submit the signed Letter of Intent and online application, and if awarded, directs the Treasurer to appropriate the funding to the Lewis County Highway Department's budget.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 30 - 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPLICATIONS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT AND AWARDS, IF GRANTED, BY THE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM FUNDING

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the Planning and Community Development Department seeks to submit applications through the NYS Grants Gateway for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Funding for several complete streets planning and implementation projects; and

WHEREAS, TAP funds can be used for the planning, design and construction of infrastructure-related projects to improve non-driver safety and access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, safe routes to school, and the planning, design and construction of on-road and off-road facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists and non-motorized transportation users; and

WHEREAS, the minimum allowable federal share project funding request under each program is \$500,000.00 and the maximum grant request is \$7 million, each requiring a 20% non-federal match; and

WHEREAS, the local match sources can include local funds, Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) capital funds or other state funds from the Recreational Trails Program, Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Department of State Downtown Revitalization Initiative Funds, Department of Environmental Conservation, Canalway Grant funds, DASNY, or Environmental Protection Funds; and

WHEREAS, the Planning & Community Development Department will work with the Highway Superintendent and B&L (as a result of the LDSA solicitation process) to develop a Lewis County Complete Streets project application to develop final engineering and construction documents for the Village of Port Leyden, Village of Turin, and Hamlet of Beaver Falls; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Planning and Community Development Director to submit the applications for the TAP grant funding on behalf of Lewis County for several complete streets planning and implementation projects, up to the maximum amount of funding under the grant based upon the cost estimates developed by B&L.

Section 2. The Director of Planning and Community Development or the Chair of the Board of Legislators be and the same is hereby authorized to execute the applications and any other documents required for submission.

Section 3. In the event the County is awarded grant funds, the Board of Legislators hereby authorizes acceptance of the award(s) along with the required 20% match (County to pay 100% of project expenditures then requests reimbursement for 80% of eligible project costs, capped at the award amount; authorizes the Treasurer to appropriate the funds, and authorizes the Chair or Vice Chair to execute the grant agreement(s), and any other documents required to give effect to this Project, upon review and approval of the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moser .

Legislator Lyndaker expressed concern that allocating the required 20% match from CHIPs funding could limit the county's ability to complete necessary road maintenance. Planning and Community Development Director Casandra Buell clarified that while the grant allows for requests up to \$7 million, the county anticipates applying for approximately \$5 million. She also noted that the Highway Department is actively pursuing additional grant opportunities to help layer funding sources and support project completion.

Lewis County Highway Superintendent John Reed emphasized that village infrastructure has been deteriorating for several years and continues to decline. He stated that securing this funding is essential, as delaying action will only exacerbate existing problems.

The resolution was then adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 31 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LEWIS COUNTY TO APPLY FOR
2026 NEW YORK STATE EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT COUNTY
INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis, by and through the Planning and Community Development Department, desires to apply for 50% of project costs, up to \$500,000.00, relative to road and complete street infrastructure improvements in the Village of Port Leyden; and

WHEREAS, the County Infrastructure Grant Program supports county-led infrastructure projects across the state that contribute to placemaking, support the creation of housing, and encourage visitation and tourism; and

WHEREAS, to apply for funding, the County would need to submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) form to determine eligibility for the project and, once eligibility is confirmed, an application will be developed for submission on the NYS CFA Portal; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Chair or Vice Chair of the Board of Legislators to sign the Letter of Intent, and application to Empire State Development for up to \$500,000.00 for the 2026 County Infrastructure Improvement Grant Program funding, with the 50% required match provided by Lewis County, for road and complete street infrastructure improvement projects in the Village of Port Leyden, and if awarded, to accept the funding and sign contract documents.

Section 2. The Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Planning and Community Development Department to submit the signed Letter of Intent and online application, and if awarded, directs the Treasurer to appropriate the funding to the Lewis County Planning and Community Development Department or Lewis County Highway Department.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO . 32 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN ADIRONDACK TECHS
AND THE COUNTY OF LEWIS TO COMPLETE A BROADBAND EXPANSION
PROJECT IN THE TOWN OF DIANA WITH NYS DEC ADIRONDACK PARK
COMMUNITY SMART GROWTH GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators approved and authorized an application to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("NYS DEC") Adirondack Park and Catskill Park Community Smart Growth Grant Program for the expansion of Broadband Infrastructure in areas within the Adirondack boundary; and

WHEREAS, the total project cost is estimated to be \$236,199.00 to service approximately 57 passings, which will require a \$75,000.00 contribution from Lewis County and at least \$36,199.00 from the contracted service provider; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis, by and through the Lewis County Planning and Community Development, was awarded \$125,000.00 in the NYS DEC funds, with a required match of at least \$50,000.00, and entered into an agreement with the NYS DEC to accept the funds and proceed with the project implementation; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Planning and Community Development has worked with several service providers to obtain cost estimates to complete the Town of Diana portion of the project and recommends contracting with Adirondack Techs to complete the build out, utilizing the balance of NYS DEC Smart Growth funding;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes an agreement with Adirondack Techs to provide broadband infrastructure to passings on Elijah Lake Road, in the Town of Diana, in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver said Agreement and any extensions or modifications thereto, upon review and approval by the County Attorney.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 33 – 2026

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE LEWIS COUNTY
2025 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, the Planning & Community Development Department has worked with Tetra Tech, Inc., municipalities, and multiple stakeholders to prepare a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as the Lewis County 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan, in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in Lewis County from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS adoption by the Lewis County Board of Legislators demonstrates their commitment to hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the (title and date of mitigation plan).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby adopts the Lewis County 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan, approved by the community, may be edited or amended after submission for review, but will not require the community to re-adopt any further iterations. This only applies to this specific plan and does not absolve the community from updating the plan in 5 years.

Section 2. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 34 - 2026

**AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN LEWIS COUNTY AND THE TOWN OF NEW BREMEN
FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF EMERGENCY REPAIR SERVICES
DUE FROM 2024 FLOODING**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution 176-2024, the County, on behalf of the Highway Department and the Department of Community and Development, authorized Inter-Municipal Agreements with certain Towns to provide for initial engineering cost required for temporary and permanent bridge repairs or replacement sites that were damaged in the 2024 flooding; and

WHEREAS, the County seeks authorization to amend the IMA with the Town of New Bremen to also include reimbursement for the costs of labor, equipment, and materials incurred by the County towards Town bridge related emergency needs at a cost not to exceed \$171,197.99;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes an amendment to the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of New Bremen to include the cost of labor, equipment, and materials by the County to repair emergency bridge related sites of the Town at a cost not to exceed \$171,197.99, with said reimbursed funds to be appropriated into Highway accounts.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal and deliver said amendment, together with the Lewis County Highway Supervisor and the Director of Planning and Community Development, upon review and approval by the County Attorney.

Section 3. The within Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Nortz , seconded by Legislator Moser .

Legislator Lyndaker asked whether there was any legal mechanism for the County to assist the Town of New Bremen in addressing the issue. Chairman Dolhof stated that the matter had been researched and no lawful avenue existed for the County to provide such assistance. Legislator Lyndaker then asked whether the County could loan funds to the Town of New Bremen. County Attorney Joan McNichol confirmed that this was not permissible. Chairman Dolhof added that the County has

made extensive efforts over the years to support towns in various situations, but in this instance, there is no action the County is legally able to take.

Planning and Community Development Director Casandra Buell clarified that the resolution under consideration pertains solely to amending the existing Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) with the Town of New Bremen—an agreement similar to those established with several other municipalities and nonprofit organizations. She explained that, at the outset of this process, the County dedicated significant time and resources to assisting every municipality, school district, and nonprofit affected by the damage. The original IMA, entered into at the beginning of the engineering phase, clearly stated that towns and villages would reimburse the County for engineering costs, as the County was streamlining the process and providing administrative support.

She noted that this was an extraordinary circumstance in which the County accumulated more than \$171,000 in labor and materials before ceasing to track additional costs. Without billing the Town and receiving payment, neither the Town nor the County would be eligible for FEMA reimbursement. She emphasized that any broader discussion about assisting the Town of New Bremen is separate from this resolution. The purpose of the resolution is simply to authorize the County to bill the Town so the Town can repay the County and subsequently submit the expense for FEMA reimbursement. She reiterated that the County remains open to exploring ways to assist where possible.

Legislator Nortz asked whether similar issues might arise with other municipalities that have IMAs with the County. It was noted that the Town of New Bremen is the only municipality with significant labor and material costs of this magnitude; most others incurred far lower amounts. Each municipality receiving engineering assistance was required to sign an IMA acknowledging their obligation to reimburse the County, and these agreements were necessary for FEMA reimbursement and documentation of expenditures.

Legislator Nortz then asked whether there was a deadline for the Town of New Bremen to repay the County. Casandra Buell stated that the County is seeking payment as soon as possible in order to advance the final project. The Town cannot submit its FEMA reimbursement request until payment to the County has been made. Chairman Dolhof added that timing is further complicated by the fact that two bridges currently in use are on loan from New York State, and the State has requested their return. Highway Superintendent John Reed explained that the State allowed the Town to use the temporary bridges through the winter and requested their return in December of the previous year. If the Town does not return them, it will be required to purchase replacements.

Superintendent Reed also outlined the FEMA reimbursement process: the Town must first pay the County to document the expenditure, then submit the reimbursement request to FEMA. Ultimately, FEMA will reimburse the Town. He noted that the cost of removing the temporary bridges is included in the engineering costs for the new bridges and will therefore be eligible for FEMA reimbursement.

The resolution was then adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 35 - 2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING MEMBERS TO THE
LEWIS COUNTY FAIR HOUSING TASK FORCE**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 508-2016, the Lewis County Board of Legislators designated the Lewis County Planning Director as the Lewis County Fair Housing Officer and HUD Section 3 Coordinator, and authorized the Planning Director to engage in activities required to maintain compliance with HUD regulations and implementation of fair housing education and enforcement resources; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the 2016 report, fair housing education and enforcement resources were identified, *inter alia*, as areas to be improved upon in Lewis County, with the recommendation that not only the County Planning Director be named the local fair housing officer, but to also establish a fair housing task force comprised of representative members with affiliated interests in housing, (such as representative from the office for the aging, mortgage lenders, real estate sales, non-profit housing, religious organizations, apartment rental agencies, housing construction industry, trade laborers); and

WHEREAS, the task force will assist in promoting fair housing choice for all persons in the County and reaffirm a commitment to equal opportunity for residents to live in safe, decent housing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Ashley Waite, Lewis County Public Health Director, Amanda Waugh, Lewis County Department of Social Services Director of Economic Supports, and Mark Waterhouse, THRIVE Assistant Director of Community Operations-Housing, to the Lewis County Fair Housing Task Force, replacing Jaylyn Yuhas-Heames, Kevin McArdle, and Tammie Lambert.

Section 2. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 36 -2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS TO
COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the Planning & Community Development Department applied for and received NYS DOS Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Funding to complete an update to the 2009 Lewis County Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, after posting an RFP for consulting services to assist with the update and receiving said bids for the project, the Board of Legislators approved a contract with LaBella Associates to complete the scope of work as outlined in the Comprehensive Plan RFP at a cost not to exceed \$215,275.00; and

WHEREAS, A Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee is required to guide the planning process, coordinate public input, liaise with a LaBella, and ultimately recommend a final draft of the updated Comprehensive Plan to the County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, The Lewis County Board of Legislators wishes to establish a Steering Committee composed of diverse stakeholders representing various sectors, geographic areas, and municipal interests within the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The County Legislature hereby establishes the Lewis County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") to oversee and facilitate the preparation of the updated County Comprehensive Plan.

Section 2. The Committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to the County Legislature and the County Planning & Community Development Department and shall be charged with the following duties:

- Provide Guidance: Advise the County Planning & Community Development Director, Planning & Community Development Staff, and LaBella on the scope, methodology, and key focus areas of the plan update.
- Coordinate Outreach: Oversee and actively participate in the public engagement process, including organizing community workshops, public meetings, and surveys to ensure broad citizen participation and input.
- Review and Recommend: Review all draft materials, technical reports, goals, objectives, policies, and implementation strategies prepared for the plan.

- Achieve Consensus: Facilitate discussion and build consensus among diverse stakeholders on the vision and policy direction for the County’s future development.
- Final Submission: Recommend a final draft of the updated Comprehensive Plan to the County Legislature for its consideration and formal adoption.

Section 3. The following individuals are hereby appointed to serve as members of the Lewis County Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, with terms commencing immediately upon the adoption of this Resolution and continuing until the updated Comprehensive Plan is formally adopted by the County Legislature:

Member Name	Representing / Stakeholder Group
Herb Frost	District 1 County Legislator
Jeff Nellenback	District 10 County Legislator
Sarah Metott	County Planning Board
Heidi Lehmann	Municipal Official (Village of Castorland)
Joanne Witt	Economic Development
Michele Ledoux	Agriculture/Farmland Preservation Sector
Nichelle Swisher	Environmental/Conservation Community
Ashley Waite	Public Health
Robert Grunert-Loud	Housing Professional
Jackie Mahoney	Recreation
Evan Jennings	Emerging Professional
Jeff Hellinger	Healthcare

Section 4. The following individuals shall serve as non-voting, Ex-Officio Members to provide technical support and continuity:

- County Planning & Community Development Director
- County Community Development Specialist
- County Treasurer

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Kalamas , and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 37 -2026

**APPOINTING THE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR AS
THE CERTIFYING OFFICER FOR A PLANNING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
BLOCK GRANT AND DECLARING PROPOSED PROJECT AS TYPE II ACTION WITH
NO SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, Board of Legislators has heretofore duly advertised and held a public hearing on the 18th day of December 2025 and considered the comments presented thereat regarding housing, economic development, microenterprise, community planning, public infrastructure, and public facilities needs; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis applied for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to fund a Vacant and Blight Property Inventory; and

WHEREAS, CDBG environmental regulations require that the County make a determination as to whether the project will have a significant impact upon the environment; and

WHEREAS, the designation of a Certifying Officer to sign the Environmental Review is required; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to designate the Director of Planning and Community Development as the Certifying Officer for this grant program; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Planning, designated as the certifying officer responsible for all activities associated with the CDBG project, reviewed the environmental review process outlined under the Grant regulations and considers the program to constitute a Type II action as defined by the regulations, and as such, recommends that the Board conclude that the project will not have a significant impact upon the environment, and that as a Type II action, no further procedure under SEQRA is required with respect to the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

Section 1. The Director of Planning and Community Development is herein designated as the Certifying Officer and is authorized to execute any required documents as the Certifying Officer in order to advance each CDBG project and secure the release of Grant Funds for each project.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby determines that the

proposed CDBG planning project to complete a Vacant and Blight Property Inventory constitutes as a Type II action as defined by the regulations promulgated under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) of the State of New York; that the projects will not have significant impacts upon the environment; and there is no further procedure required under SEQRA.

Section 3. Should the CDBG funded be awarded, the Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to execute, seal and deliver any forms and documents related to the execution of a grant agreement and notice to proceed.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Kalamas , and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 38 - 2026

APPOINTING THE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR AS THE CERTIFYING OFFICER FOR ALL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS, DECLARING PROPOSED PROJECTS AS TYPE II ACTIONS WITH NO SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS, AND AUTHORIZING SNOW BELT SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, an application for CDBG funding specific to housing rehabilitation was submitted; and

WHEREAS, the County recently received notice of an award in the amount of \$750,000.00 under its housing rehabilitation application. Pursuant to the award, the County seeks to enter into a subrecipient agreement with Snow Belt Housing Company, Inc. (Snow Belt) to administer the program and deliverables in consideration of Snow Belt receiving \$37,500.00 for administration and \$97,500.00 for delivery costs under the Grant, payable from the grant funds; and

WHEREAS, this project is subject to environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

WHEREAS, the designation of a Certifying Officer to sign the Environmental Review is required; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to designate the Director of Planning and Community Development as the Certifying Officer for this CDBG Project # 636HR322-25; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Planning and Community Development, as the designated Certifying Officer, is responsible for the environmental review process for all NYS CDBG applications outlined in the program year 2025 CDBG application guidelines. The Director recommends that the Board conclude that the projects submitted within the applications will not have a significant environmental impact and that, as Type II actions, no further procedure under SEQRA is required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes a subrecipient agreement with Snow Belt Housing Company, Inc. to administer and deliver projects under the 2025 CDBG grant (project #636HR322-25) award of \$750,000.00 for housing rehabilitation projects in Lewis County. The subrecipient agreement shall include provisions for Snow Belt to receive \$37,500.00 from the grant funds for administration costs and \$97,500.00 in delivery costs associated with the balance of \$615,000.00 in project costs.

Section 2. The Chair or the Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators are hereby authorized to make, execute seal and deliver such agreements and contracts with Snow Belt Housing Company and New York State Office of Community Renewal as the County Attorney may recommend and approve, and appropriate the funding.

Section 3. The Director of Planning and Community Development is herein designated as the Certifying Officer for Project # 636HR322-25 and is authorized to execute any required documents as the Certifying Officer in order to advance and secure the release of Grant Funds for the project, as required by the administering agency, New York State Office of Community Renewal.

Section 4. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby determines that the proposed CDBG funding project, which include housing rehabilitation, constitutes a Type II action as defined by the regulations promulgated under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) of the State of New York; that the project will not have significant impacts upon the environment; and there is no further procedure required under SEQRA.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Kalamas , and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 39 - 2026

**RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING WITH REFERENCE TO
INCLUSION OF AGRICULTURALLY VIABLE LAND INTO THE CERTIFIED
AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT # 6**

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators, in accordance with § 303-b of the Agricultural and Markets Law, designated November 15th to December 15th as the annual thirty (30) day review period in which a landowner may submit requests for inclusion of predominately viable agricultural land within a Certified Agricultural District; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Planning Department received three (3) applications for inclusion of properties into Agricultural District # 6. The parcels are located in the Town of Martinsburg, Tax Map Parcel No. 210.00-02-10.100 owned by John H Ingham III and Penny Ingham (approximately 91.2 acres), Town of Watson, Tax Map Parcel No. 214.00-01-11.210 owned by John Young (approximately 8.6 acres); and Town of Lewis, Tax Map Parcel No. 416.00-01-18.200 owned by Dennis Poff and Alexandria Heitzman (approximately 13 acres); and

WHEREAS, the Planning Department presented the applications to the Lewis County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, who agreed that the parcels proposed are “viable agricultural land,” and will meet the eligibility requirements for inclusion into Certified Agricultural District #6, and has provided a report to the Lewis County Board of Legislators with a recommendation for its inclusion; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 303-b of the Laws of 2003 amending NYS Agricultural and Markets Law, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to set the public hearing to consider this request;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby sets a public hearing to be held on March 3rd, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. for the purpose of receiving public comment to consider the request and recommendations of the Lewis County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board, for inclusion of the parcels located in the Town of Martinsburg, Tax Map Parcel No. 210.00-02-10.100 owned by John H Ingham III and Penny Ingham (approximately 91.2 acres), Town of Watson, Tax Map Parcel No. 214.00-01-11.210 owned by John Young (approximately 8.6 acres); and Town of Lewis, Tax Map Parcel No. 416.00-01-18.200 owned by Dennis Poff and Alexandria Heitzman (approximately 13 acres).

Section 2. The hearing will be held at the Board's regular meeting at the Courthouse Building, 7660 N. State Street, Lowville, NY 13367, Second Floor Legislative Chamber, on Tuesday, March 3rd, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Written comments received via email, mail or hand delivery on or before Monday, March 3rd, 2026 by 4:00 p.m. to the Clerk of the Board at cassandramoser@lewiscounty.ny.gov or at 7660 North State Street, Lowville, NY 13367 will be read into the record prior to any action by the Board.

Section 3. At least five (5) days notice of such hearing shall be given by the Clerk of this Board by the due posting thereof upon the bulletin board of the Lewis County Court House, Lowville, New York, and by publishing such notice at least once in the official newspaper of the County.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Kalamas , and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 40 -2026

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE FAÇADE & STREETScape IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE USE OF ROLL-OVER BUDGETED AND ARPA FUNDS

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 210-2021, the Lewis County Board of Legislators authorized the Planning Department's three-year Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program (FSIP), funded in part through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), to invest in downtown corridors, village centers, and public spaces throughout Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, the Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program was established to revitalize mixed-use and commercial buildings, strengthen local business districts, encourage private investment through a matching grant structure, and advance goals set forth in the Lewis County Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program has been implemented in multiple funding rounds and has demonstrated strong participation and continued demand across villages and hamlets in Lewis County; and

WHEREAS, unused budgeted funds and unexpended ARPA funds appropriated for the Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program have been prudently rolled over from year to year, consistent with applicable fiscal policies, in order to extend the life of the Program and allow for additional funding rounds; and

WHEREAS, through this approach, the Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program has now advanced to Round 5, allowing additional property owners and communities to benefit from the Program without requiring new appropriations beyond those previously authorized and approved; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators recognizes the ongoing economic development, community revitalization, and quality-of-place benefits generated by the Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program as it has been implemented by the Planning Department in partnership with relevant agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators wishes to express its support for the continuation of the Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program, as currently structured and administered, while reaffirming that, with this Round exhausting all approved funding sources, future funding levels remain subject to review and approval through the County's annual budgeting process;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby acknowledges that both unused budgeted funds and previously approved ARPA funds have been rolled over annually to extend the Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program through multiple funding rounds, including the current Round 5.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its support for the continued operation of the Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program as implemented and overseen by the Planning & Community Development Department, recognizing its value to local businesses, downtown revitalization, and community development throughout Lewis County.

Section 3. With the current Round 5 awards exhausting all previously approved rolled-over budgeted funds and allocated ARPA funds, nothing herein shall be construed as an automatic or appropriation of new funds; and that any future funding for the Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program shall be subject to approval by the Lewis County Board of Legislators during the annual budget process or through duly adopted resolutions.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Frost , seconded by Legislator Moser .

Legislator Kalamas inquired about the amount of funding available for rollover. Planning and Community Development Director Casandra Buell explained that rollover funds have been available each year, allowing for additional funding rounds. She noted that approximately \$100,000 remains available in Round 5.

Legislator Nortz added that ARPA funds must be fully expended by the end of 2026, which was confirmed to be accurate.

The resolution was then adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 41 - 2026

**RESOLUTION ADJUSTING PRESCHOOL PROVIDER SERVICES RATE WITH
LEWIS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators is authorized to approve a rate list for Preschool Special Education Service Providers; and

WHEREAS, In order to meet the growing demand of children who need these services in the County, the changes are provided as such to make the rates competitive with the intention of enticing other providers to contract with the County to combat the waitlist of students. The former and proposed rates are as follows:

Service	Former Rate Individual	Proposed Rate per half hour Individual	Former Rate Group	Proposed Rate per half hour Group	Proposed Rate per half hour Group of 1
Aid 1:1	\$17.00	\$17.00	\$8.50	\$8.50	\$17.00
Audiology	\$177.50	\$177.50	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$177.50
Psychological	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$75.00	\$75.00	\$100.00
Occupational Therapy	\$74.00	\$75.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$75.00
Physical Therapy	\$74.00	\$75.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$75.00
Physical Therapy Assistant	\$55.00	\$55.00	\$47.00	\$47.00	\$55.00
Speech Therapy	\$74.00	\$75.00	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$75.00
Coordination	n/a	\$38.00	n/a	\$25.00	\$38.00
School Health Services/ NURSE	n/a	\$36.00	n/a	\$39.00	\$36.00
Interpreter	n/a	\$42.50	n/a	\$28.00	\$42.50
Orientation and Mobility	n/a	\$64.00	n/a	\$39.00	\$64.00
Teacher of Hearing Impaired	n/a	\$56.00	n/a	\$35.00	\$56.00

Teacher of the Visually Impaired	n/a	\$53.00	n/a	\$33.00	\$53.00
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WHEREAS, the Director of Public Health seeks to have the Lewis County Board of Legislators authorize and approve this list of approved rates for preschool related services, effective March 1, 2026;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators authorizes and approves an amendment to the Preschool Special Education Provider Agreements to change their pay rates, effective March 1, 2026.

Section 2. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 42 - 2026

**FIXING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADDITION
TO THE OHV TRAIL SYSTEM**

(Jeffrey G. Nellenback Irrevocable Trust Property)

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, there will be introduced at a meeting of this Board of Legislators to be held on March 3, 2026, a proposed addition of approximately 580 feet to the Lewis County OHV Trail System. The proposed trail is located in the Town of Lewis, Tax Map Parcel: 388.00-02-12.100 owned by Jeffrey G. Nellenback Irrevocable Trust;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. A public hearing will be held on March 3, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. before the Lewis County Board of Legislators for the purpose of receiving public comment regarding the proposed addition of approximately 580 feet to the Lewis County OHV Trail System.

Section 2. At least five (5) days' notice of such hearing shall be given by the Clerk of this Board by the due posting thereof upon the bulletin board of the Lewis County Courthouse, Lowville, New York, and by publishing such notice at least once in the official newspaper of the County.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 43 - 2026

FIXING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW

(INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 1-2026), COUNTY OF LEWIS

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, there will be presented and introduced at a meeting of this Board of Legislators to be held on March 3, 2026, a proposed Local Law entitled "A LOCAL LAW PERMITTING ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE OPERATION ON CERTAIN PORTIONS OF BYRONS CORNERS ROAD (CR 49) IN THE TOWN OF WEST TURIN".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. A public hearing will be held on March 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. before the Lewis County Board of Legislators in the Second Floor Board Room at the Lewis County Courthouse, 7660 North State Street, Lowville, New York.

Section 2. At least five (5) days' notice of such hearing shall be given by the Clerk of this Board by the due posting thereof upon the bulletin board of the Lewis County Court House, Lowville, New York, and by publishing such notice at least once in the official newspaper of the County.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 44 - 2026

FIXING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW

(INTRODUCTORY LOCAL LAW NO. 2-2026), COUNTY OF LEWIS

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, there will be presented and introduced at a meeting of this Board of Legislators to be held on March 3, 2026, a proposed Local Law entitled "A LOCAL LAW PERMITTING ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE/OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE OPERATION ON PORTIONS OF COUNTY ROAD 47 (FISH CREEK ROAD) (APPROXIMATELY 3.4 MILES) IN THE TOWNS OF WEST TURIN & LEWIS, TO CONNECT THE EXISTING OHV TRAIL SYSTEM FROM THE TRAIL ON TYRONE D. CONSTANTINO'S PARCEL TO THE TRAIL ON KEVIN EMERICH'S PARCEL."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. A public hearing will be held on March 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. before the Lewis County Board of Legislators in the Second Floor Board Room at the Lewis County Courthouse, 7660 North State Street, Lowville, New York.

Section 2. At least five (5) days' notice of such hearing shall be given by the Clerk of this Board by the due posting thereof upon the bulletin board of the Lewis County Court House, Lowville, New York, and by publishing such notice at least once in the official newspaper of the County.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 45 - 2026

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE LEWIS COUNTY NON-MOTORIZED
WINTER RECREATION MASTER PLAN**

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, Lewis County owns and manages significant public lands and trail systems that support outdoor recreation, tourism, economic development, and quality of life for residents; and

WHEREAS, Lewis County Recreation, Forestry, and Parks, in coordination with Lewis County Planning and Community Development and the SE Group, undertook the preparation of the *Lewis County Non-Motorized Winter Recreation Plan* to guide the planning, development, and management of non-motorized winter recreation opportunities on County-owned lands, including the area known as the Commons; and

WHEREAS, the planning process included analysis of existing conditions, environmental considerations, access and infrastructure needs, and extensive public and stakeholder engagement conducted during winter and summer 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Plan identifies priority and supporting recommendations to expand and improve non-motorized winter recreation opportunities, including but not limited to groomed cross-country ski trails, snowshoeing and hiking routes, improved trailheads, enhanced wayfinding and signage, separation of motorized and non-motorized uses where appropriate, and phased implementation strategies; and

WHEREAS, the Plan is intended to serve as a guiding document to support future grant applications, inter-municipal coordination, partnerships, capital planning, and phased implementation, and does not itself authorize or obligate the expenditure of County funds; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the Plan will position Lewis County to pursue state and federal funding opportunities, including but not limited to New York State Department of Environmental Conservation programs and the Recreational Trails Program, and to coordinate future actions with partner agencies and organizations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby adopts the Lewis County Non-Motorized Winter Recreation Plan, dated October 2025, as an official planning document of Lewis County.

Section 2. The adopted Plan shall be used as a policy and guidance document to inform future planning, design, grant applications, partnerships, and implementation efforts related to non-motorized winter recreation, subject to future approvals by the Board of Legislators as required.

Section 3. The Recreation, Forestry, and Parks Department is directed to distribute the Plan to all appropriate agencies and organizations in Lewis County and to post a copy of the Plan on the Lewis County website.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 46 - 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND CORRECTEK, INC. FOR INMATE HEALTH
INTEGRATION SOFTWARE IN THE LEWIS COUNTY JAIL**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the County of Lewis on behalf of the Sheriff's Department seeks to enter into an agreement with CorrecTek, Inc. for software to integrate platforms from the Jail Management System (Black Creek), the pharmacy interface (Health Direct) and laboratory interface (Lewis County General Hospital) that streamline inmates medical, dental, and behavior health records into a single unified patient chart; and

WHEREAS, CorrecTek, Inc. has submitted a proposal to provide installation, maintenance and training as set forth in the service agreement, commencing January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, with annual automatic renewals. The total one-time up-front cost of \$49,700.00 includes the software license fee and interface fees. There is a monthly recurring fee of \$1,375.00 for tech support and advantage plan services plus any additional monthly billing for Surescripts Medication History Queries at \$3.00 per patient and Surescript prescribing at \$125.00 per prescriber as more fully set forth in CorrecTek's proposal dated November 18, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Legislators wishes to authorize such Service Agreement;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes software, maintenance and training agreement with CorrecTek, Inc., 2929 Broadway, Paducah, Kentucky 42001 to implement software to streamline inmates medical, dental, and behavior health records into a single unified patient chart commencing January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026, with annual automatic renewals. The total one-time up-front cost of \$49,700.00 includes the software license fee and interface fees. There is a monthly recurring fee of \$1,375.00 for tech support and advantage plan services plus any additional monthly billing for Surescripts Medication History Queries at \$3.00 per patient and Surescript prescribing at \$125.00 per prescriber as more fully set forth in CorrecTek's proposal dated November 18, 2025.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators is hereby authorized to make, execute, seal, and deliver such Software and Service Agreement and any annual renewal statement, pending approval by the County Attorney.

Section 3. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Kalamas , and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 47 - 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LEWIS AND CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D.B.A VERIZON WIRELESS, FOR LEASE SPACE ON THE MONTAGUE 911 TOWER AND SITE

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the County has a ninety-nine year lease from the landowner for its 911 Tower and Equipment Shelter at 6588 Sears Pond Road, Montague, NY, ("Montague Tower"). The County has been approached by Verizon Communications, Inc. to obtain limited access to the Montague Tower and site to determine the feasibility of Verizon Communications Inc. (Verizon Wireless) leasing space on the tower in order to expand its cellular services in the area; and

WHEREAS, the County Attorney and 911 Coordinator have been in discussions and negotiations with Verizon representatives for temporary access and testing by Verizon and a potential final lease agreement, based upon the preliminary feasibility testing, including structural analysis required for the viability of adding Verizon equipment on the tower for expansion of its cellular services; and

WHEREAS, the parties are finalizing terms for a long-term lease agreement, pending Verizon's testing and preliminary feasibility studies, including a comprehensive structural analysis report to confirm that the tower can support the intended additions, without compromising the County's primary use and operation of the tower for emergency 911 services. The access and testing agreement and proposed long-term lease, with approval from the landowner, would allow for Verizon's installation of its antenna and related equipment at certain heights on the tower, for receipt and transmission of Verizon wireless communication signals, and ground space for its shelter; and

WHEREAS, the County, through the 911 Coordinator, County Attorney and its 911 engineering consultants will review all data, testing results, structural analysis, and probable long-term uses by the County in confirming that leasing specific, identified areas on the tower to Verizon, with specific provisions to guard against and protect the County's equipment and transmission of its 911 system, without interference or damage, is feasible before entering into a final lease agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to authorize a short term (1 year) access and testing agreement with Verizon for a fee of \$2,200 for its limited and restricted access for testing, together with the obligation of Verizon to reimburse the County for any and all consultants costs and fees for review of all testing data and structural analysis; and

WHEREAS, if all terms and conditions are met for use of the tower space by Verizon after all County required testing and analysis, a long term lease agreement with Verizon Communications Inc. for the use of identified space on the Montague Tower site, 6588 Sears Pond Road, is approved at a monthly rate of \$2,200.00 upon commencement of the first five year initial term; with automatic five-year extension terms (up to eight), with an increase in the monthly rent by 8% over the applicable rent in effect during the previous five (5) year term. Pursuant to the County's lease agreement with the landowner, the monthly rent received by the County will be shared with the landowner on a 50/50 basis;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the County to enter into a short term access and testing agreement with Verizon Communications Inc, through its subsidiary, Cellco Partnership d.b.a. Verizon Wireless, and its named subcontractors for testing and structural analysis as the County may require, at Verizon's sole cost and expense, to determine the feasibility of Verizon renting specified space on the tower and ground on the 911 tower located at 6588 Sears Pond Road, Montague, NY (Montague Tower) with proper structural supports for Verizon's transmission of wireless communications signals without, interference to the County's 911 system and equipment. The fee for this short term testing access is \$2,200.00.

Section 2. Upon the County's expert consultant's review and approval of the proposed structural analysis and testing requirements for placement of Verizon equipment on the Tower without any interference with the County's 911 systems and upon Verizon's decision during the short term testing access period to move forward with a long term lease, the Board of Legislators authorizes the County attorney to finalize a lease agreement with Verizon to lease a portion of the ground space and tower location for an initial 5 year lease term at a monthly rate of \$2,200.00, with automatic five-year extension terms (up to eight), with an increase in the monthly rent by 8% over the applicable rent in effect during the previous five (5) year term; together with all other terms and conditions to protect the County's Emergency 911 system and services provided by this Tower.

Section 3. The Chair or Vice-Chair is hereby authorized to execute, seal and deliver said Short Term and Long Term Lease Agreements, Consent, Non-Disturbance and Attornment Agreement, and Memorandum of Lease, if any, and any other documents and forms required to give effect to same, upon such form and content as approved by the County Attorney.

Section 4. The within resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 48 - 2026

RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO IMMEDIATELY RESTORE FUNDING FOR THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF), CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT FUND (CCDF), AND SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (SSBG) PROGRAMS

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Child Care Development Fund (CCDF), and Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) programs provide critical support to vulnerable children, working families, and individuals across New York State by funding child care assistance, cash assistance, child welfare services, child protective services, and other essential safety net programs; and

WHEREAS, these programs are administered at the local level by counties, using a combination of federal, state, and county taxpayer dollars, with counties responsible for determining eligibility, delivering services, and ensuring program integrity; and

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2026, the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) notified New York State that it would withhold federal funding for TANF, CCDF, and SSBG as part of a broader action affecting several states, resulting in the freezing of more than \$10 billion in funding nationwide; and

WHEREAS, under federal law, the TANF block grant is an entitlement to states, established through federal welfare reform legislation, and was designed to ensure continuity of assistance to eligible families while allowing states flexibility to design and administer their own programs in compliance with federal guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Social Services Block Grant is funded entirely with federal dollars and supports essential county-administered services, including child welfare, child protective services, and child care, which cannot be easily absorbed by county property taxpayers in the event of a prolonged funding interruption; and

WHEREAS, a blanket withholding of federal funding threatens to destabilize essential services relied upon by hundreds of thousands of eligible New York families, exacerbate the state's affordability crisis, disrupt child care access for working parents, and shift significant costs onto county-funded Safety Net Assistance programs; and

WHEREAS, New York counties already face significant fiscal pressures, including billions of dollars in new costs resulting from recently enacted federal

legislation that shifts additional Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) administrative expenses and Medicaid-related costs to counties; and

WHEREAS, counties share the federal government's commitment to program integrity, fraud prevention, and accountability, and support the investigation and prosecution of any verified instances of fraud through established oversight and enforcement mechanisms; and

WHEREAS, withholding funding from entire states or programs punishes innocent children and families who are fully eligible for assistance, undermines local service delivery systems, and creates collateral harm that far exceeds any isolated instances of alleged fraud; and

WHEREAS, New York State and in particular, the Lewis County maintains robust eligibility verification and oversight systems for these programs and work diligently to ensure that taxpayer dollars are used appropriately and in compliance with all applicable federal and state requirements;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby calls upon the United States Department of Health and Human Services to immediately restore full funding for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Child Care Development Fund (CCDF), and Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) programs to ensure continuity of services for eligible children and families.

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators urges the federal government to work collaboratively with New York State and its counties to address any fraud concerns through existing federal and state oversight, audit, and enforcement mechanisms, rather than through blanket funding freezes

Section 3. Lewis County calls upon New York State to maintain consistent communication with counties regarding the status of the federal funding freeze, provide regular updates on litigation and contingency planning efforts, and offer technical and financial support to ensure counties can maintain continuity of operations and services to eligible families.

Section 4. The Lewis County Board of Legislators support enforcement efforts that are targeted at specific bad actors, where appropriate, and not by the imposition of broad punitive measures that harm eligible families, local taxpayers, and county governments.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Section 6. The Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to transmit certified copies of this resolution to the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services, New York's Congressional Delegation, the Governor of the State of New York, the New York State Legislature, the New York State Attorney General, the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC), and any other deemed appropriate.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 49 - 2026

**RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING BRIAN REAPE AS
FARM BUREAU REPRESENTATIVE TO THE
LEWIS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Districts Law, the Lewis County Board of Legislators is authorized to appoint members to the Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors includes representation from the Lewis County Farm Bureau to ensure the interests and perspectives of the agricultural community are properly considered in conservation and land management programs; and

WHEREAS, Brian Reape of Denmark, New York, has effectively served as the Farm Bureau Representative, demonstrating commitment to agricultural stewardship and the mission of the Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District and wishes to be reappointed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby reappoints Brian Reape of Denmark, New York, as the Farm Bureau Representative to the Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors for a three-year term.

Section 2. The term of this appointment shall be effective from January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators extends its appreciation to Brian Reape for his continued commitment and valuable service to the Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Directors.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Brian Reape and to the Lewis County Soil and Water Conservation District Executive Director.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Kalamas , and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 50 – 2026

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING INTERFUND LOAN FINANCING
AND MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN COUNTY OF LEWIS AND
LEWIS COUNTY SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT FOR
COUNTY MACHINERY EQUIPMENT PURCHASE**

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Solid Waste Department purchases various heavy duty machinery equipment and vehicles on an annual basis under its capital equipment plan; and

WHEREAS, in order to save on financial institution interest payments and legal fees incurred under bonds and lease-to-own agreements, in 2022 the Board of Legislators authorized an interfund loan from Fund Balance to the County Machinery Fund for 2023 Highway Department machinery and heavy equipment purchases in accordance with its capital equipment plan. An MOU was executed to provide for repayment of this loan within five years at no interest, and with annual installments toward the balance owing; and

WHEREAS, the Treasurer, Solid Waste Director and Purchasing Director seek to have the Board of Legislators authorize a 2026 interfund loan of \$184,000.00 from General Fund to the Solid Waste Enterprise Department (Solid Waste Machinery Fund) in order to pay in full for the 2026 Heavy Duty Class 8 Road Tractor ordered and budgeted in 2025 (and carried over under the Department's 2026 budget and capital equipment plan) at a cost of \$ 230,891.32. The Solid Waste Department will provide a \$46,891.32 payment toward the purchase in 2026, and seeks to have the balance of \$184,00.00 paid by the County in accordance with a financing MOU for repayment of same by Solid Waste. Further, the Director anticipates applying the proceeds from the sale of other equipment replaced by this new tractor to the financing payments; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Solid Waste requests that the Board authorize the Treasurer to transfer \$184,000.00 from the County's General Fund to the Solid Waste Equipment Fund for the purpose of providing funds to pay the entire cost of the above identified equipment, anticipated to be delivered within the next 4-6 weeks, and to have the proposed MOU executed simultaneously with the transfer of funds. The MOU will provide for Solid Waste to repay the \$184,000.00 in annual installments of \$46,000.00 commencing May, 2027, and each May thereafter through May, 2030, at no interest, and with the right to additional pre-payments at anytime during the loan period;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes a Memorandum of Understanding between the Lewis County Solid Waste Department and the County of Lewis wherein the County agrees to advance the sum of \$184,000.00 from the General Fund to the County Machinery Fund for the purpose of paying in full the Lewis County Solid Waste Department's purchase of the August, 2025 ordered Heavy Duty Class 8-Cab Chassis Road Tractor from Tracey Road (\$230,891.32), in consideration of the Solid Waste Director's agreement to repay the County for the funds advanced, with no interest, payable in annual installments of \$46,000 over a four (4) year period, with the first installment due May 1, 2027 and on the first day of May thereafter through May 1, 2030 .

Section 2. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Treasurer to transfer the amount of \$184,000.00 from the General Fund using fund balance, to the County Machinery Fund for the above-described purpose upon full execution of the MOU.

Section 3. The Chair or the Vice-Chair of the Board of Legislators and the Director of Lewis County Solid Waste are hereby authorized to execute and deliver the MOU, upon such terms and conditions as recommended and approved by the County Attorney.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser , seconded by Legislator Kalamas , and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 51 - 2026

STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING RESOLUTION

Introduced by Legislator Jessica Moser, Chair of the Finance & Rules Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The County of Lewis hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the Clerk of this body:

Title	Name	Standard Work Day	Term Begins/Ends	Days/Month
Elected Officials				
Chairman, Board of Legislators	Lawrence L. Dolhof	6	01/01/2026 - 12/31/2026	13.37
Legislator	Herbert F. Frost III	6	01/01/2026 - 12/31/2026	2.25
Legislator	Thomas M. Kalamas	6	01/01/2026 - 12/31/2026	10.69
Legislator	Barry D. Lyndaker	6	01/01/2026 - 12/31/2026	13.03
Legislator	Jessica L. Moser	6	01/01/2026 - 12/31/2026	3.73
Appointed Officials				
Election Commissioner	Ramona L. Carpenter	8	08/06/2025 - 12/31/2026	22.34
Deputy Election Commissioner	Hannah K. Wilson	7.5	01/01/2025 - 12/31/2026	21.67

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 52 - 2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING SOPHIE DEALING TO THE
LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU ADVISORY BOARD**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board was established to advise and assist in the development, coordination, and evaluation of youth programs and services within the County; and

WHEREAS, the participation of student representatives provides valuable perspective and insight to the Youth Bureau Advisory Board, ensuring that the interests and needs of young people in the community are effectively represented; and

WHEREAS, Sophie Dealing of Copenhagen Central School, has been recommended by the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board for appointment to serve as a student representative;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Sophie Dealing of Copenhagen Central School as a student representative on the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board.

Section 2. The term of this appointment shall be effective February 4, 2026 and shall terminate either on the date of her high school graduation or upon ceasing to be a full-time high school student, whichever occurs first.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses appreciation to Sophie Dealing for her willingness to serve and contribute to the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Sophie Dealing and to the Director of the Youth Bureau Advisory Board.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 53 - 2026

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING SARAH RICHARDSON TO THE
LEWIS COUNTY YOUTH BUREAU ADVISORY BOARD**

Introduced by Legislator Thomas Kalamas, Chair of the Human Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board was established to advise and assist in the development, coordination, and evaluation of youth programs and services within the County; and

WHEREAS, the participation of student representatives provides valuable perspective and insight to the Youth Bureau Advisory Board, ensuring that the interests and needs of young people in the community are effectively represented; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Richardson of Copenhagen Central School, has been recommended by the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board to serve as a student representative;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby appoints Sarah Richardson of Copenhagen Central School as a student representative on the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board.

Section 2. The term of this appointment shall be effective February 4, 2026 and shall terminate either on the date of her high school graduation or upon ceasing to be a full-time high school student, whichever occurs first.

Section 3. The Lewis County Board of Legislators expresses its appreciation to Sarah Richardson for her willingness to serve and contribute to the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board.

Section 4. The Clerk of the Board shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to Sarah Richardson and to the Director of the Lewis County Youth Bureau Advisory Board.

Section 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by Legislator Moser, seconded by Legislator Kalamas, and adopted on the 3rd day of February 2026.

RESOLUTION NO. 54 - 2026

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING LEWIS COUNTY TO APPLY FOR 2026 NORTHERN BORDER REGIONAL COMMISSION TIMBER FOR TRANSIT FUNDING TO COMPLETE A FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR BRIDGE REPLACEMENT ON MOOSE RIVER RD EXTENSION

Introduced by Legislator Joshua Leviker, Chair of the General Services Committee.

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Highway Department desires to apply for up to \$1,000,000 in financial assistance to assist with the completion of a feasibility study for the Moose River Road Extension Bridge project under the 2026 Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) Timber for Transit Program; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, the grant requires a commitment of a 20% match from the County, which would be covered by a combination of Lewis County Highway Funds, CHIPS funds, and other eligible grants; and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Board of Legislators seeks to authorize this application;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

Section 1. The Lewis County Board of Legislators hereby authorizes the Lewis County Highway Department to submit the application for 2026 Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) Timber for Transit Program funding in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 to implement a feasibility study for the bridge replacement at Moose River Rd Extension.

Section 2. The Chair or Vice Chair of the Board of Legislators, be and the same, is hereby authorized to sign and submit the application and, if awarded, to accept the funding, sign contract documents, appropriate the project funding to the Lewis County Highway Department's budget, and award a bid to the best value firm in compliance with the funding.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Move by Legislator Nellenback , seconded by Legislator Frost .

Chairman Dolhof explained that the Highway Superintendent had only recently been notified of the funding opportunity and that the application must be submitted by February 27th. He noted that if the matter were not advanced as a late resolution and instead held until the next monthly meeting, the County would miss the application deadline.

Highway Superintendent John Reed stated that the condition of the bridge has been a topic of discussion for more than thirty years. The bridge is currently posted at a three-ton limit, and any further reduction would require its closure. Property owners on the far side of the Moose River have repeatedly requested action from multiple past superintendents. Reed reported that he learned of the newly available funding last week, attended a webinar, and believes the program may finally meet the long-standing needs required to advance the project. He emphasized that the funding requires a 20% local match, and if the bridge deteriorates further and must be closed, the County could be responsible for the full cost of replacement. He stressed the importance of pursuing this funding opportunity.

Legislator Lyndaker asked whether any residents live on the opposite side of the bridge. Reed responded that no one resides there year-round, but the properties – including camps and wooded acreage – are used throughout the year. Chairman Dolhof added that several landowners are affected, including a large timber company that owns approximately 1,000 acres adjacent to the bridge. That landowner must currently use an alternate route for logging operations due to the weight restriction. Another property owner maintains a camp just beyond the bridge, formerly used as a depot.

Legislator Hanno asked what funding amount the County intended to request, noting that the resolution authorizes an application of up to \$1 million, though the actual need may be significantly lower. Chairman Dolhof stated that he does not anticipate the study reaching the full \$1 million, but that amount is the maximum available under the grant. Reed clarified that the feasibility study is eligible for up to \$1 million in funding, while implementation is eligible for up to \$5 million. He noted that the County is unlikely to reach either cap. Legislator Hanno then asked whether the feasibility study includes engineering; Reed confirmed that it does not include construction engineering.

The resolution was adopted on the 3rd day of February, 2026, with Legislators Lyndaker and Hanno opposed.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There being no other business to come before the Board, Legislator Nellenback moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hanno, and approved.